

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: BAUERFEIND
SERIAL NO.: not yet known
FILED: herewith
TITLE: OPERATOR BUTTONS AS ACTIVE BUTTONS
ART UNIT: not yet known
EXAMINER: not yet known

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application before a first consideration on the merits as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, before line 1, insert --Field of the Invention--.

On page 1, before line 7 insert --Related Technology--.

On page 1, before line 23, insert --Summary of the Invention--.

On page 1, line 23, change "the object" to --an object--.

On page 1, delete lines 27-28.

On page 2, before line 1, insert --The present invention provides a programmable controller having a processing unit, a display screen (6), an operator unit (4, 5) and signal inputs (2) and signal outputs (3), where the processing unit, the display screen (6), the operator unit (4, 5), the signal inputs (2) and signal outputs (3) are accommodated in a common housing (1), and where switching functions can be programmed by the user on the basis of predetermined functions by using a menu-assisted user interface on the display screen (6). A button of the operator unit (4, 5) can be switched to an active button with the aid of a programmable function, such that the sequence of a switching function depends on operation